

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

RI Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2010

Denise Poyer Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association

Sue Barker Greenways Alliance of RI

Chet Hayden RI Federation of Riding Clubs

Sylvia Hayden RI Federation of Riding Clubs

Cindy Julien Gun owners PAC

Don Dibiasio RI State Rifle & Revolver Association

Steve Church RIDOT

Lisa Primiano RI DEM, Planning & Development

Gregg J. Cassidy RI DEM, Planning & Development

Larry Mouradjian RI DEM

Jay B. Aron RI DEM/Forestry

Catherine Sparks RIDEM, Forestry

Roy Benoit Appalachian Mountain Club

Jennie Crooks Appalachian Mountain Club

Meg Kerr RI Blueways Alliance

Roy Najecki RI Land Trust Council

Peter Gengler International Mountain Biking Association

Bob Butler NEA4WDC

Jack Lancelotta Jaycee Foundation & Pawtuxet River Authority

Kevin Nelson Statewide Planning

Bill McCormick RI Trials Club

Barbara Kilcup Yankee Trailers

Meeting called to order at 3:30 PM.

1. Meeting Minutes. Review of meeting minutes for the February 16, 2010 meeting. Motion to accept meeting minutes of February 16, 2010 made by Sue Barker and seconded by Denise Poyer. Approved.

2. Status of Current Grant Round. Lisa Primiano gave a status report on the grant round for trail improvement grants. The grant review subcommittee has had six meetings to rank applications and presented Director Sullivan, of DEM, a list of projects recommended for funding. The Trail Advisory Committee must approve the list before it can be submitted to DOT. The list will be on the agenda to review for the June 15, 2010 meeting.

3. Materials Only Grant Requests

- The Blackstone Conservancy & Town of Coventry trail improvement grant requests were tabled due to incomplete budget information.**
- Greenways Alliance Grant Amendment. Sue Barker presented. Early this year the Greenways Alliance received a grant to continue the Trail Mix newsletter. It was requested that the information be put on the web. The Greenways Alliance is seeking to use funds from the existing grant, approximately \$160.00/year, to fund a website. Meg Kerr made a motion to approve the request. Roy Najecki seconded the request. Approved.**
- Town of South Kingstown, Ed & Ruth Nature Trail @ Tri-Pond Park. This request was for \$2230.00 for trail repair and to build a bog bridge. Jay voiced concern that the proposed bridge would not use acceptable methods to cross wetlands. Steve Church pointed out that it is the Applicants responsibility to plan and construct the project to protect environmental and cultural resources and the award letter clearly states this. Motion to approve the request for up to \$2230.00 for a trail improvement grant made by Roy Najecki, seconded by Sue Barker. Approved.**
- Westwood YMCA. This project involves \$2115.00 for improvements to a 1.7 mile long loop on three trails at Camp Westwood in Coventry.**

Discussion centered on the fact that access to the property requires membership to the YMCA. Motion to approve YMCA request for \$2230.00 for a trail improvement grant made by Roy Najecki, seconded by Kevin Nelson. Approved. NOTE: Donn Dibiasio and Cindy Julien voted against the request.

- **City of East Providence, Boyden Heights. The grant request was for \$1800.00 to fund signage and brochures for this property. Motion to approve by Peter Gengler, seconded by Roy Najecki. Approved.**

- **South Kingstown Land Trust. Yawgoo Pond Trail. Request for \$3000.00 to fund for a parking area and sign... The budget did not include a detailed budget. Motion to approve. Denise Poyer, seconded by Barbara Kilcup. Discussion centers on the fact that the application was incomplete and did not include an itemized list of materials. Jay Aron stated that past practice dictated that an itemized list of materials be provided.**

Kevin Nelson proposed that the grant request be approved subject to submission of an itemized material list since the budget detail was the only page missing from the application and it could have simply been omitted in error. Seconded by Ray Najecki. Approved. NOTE: Meg Kerr, Larry Mourajian, Denise Poyer, Cindy Julian, Jenny Crooks, Jay Aron, and Sue Barker voted against the request.

- **Foster Land Trust. Ponagansett River Trail. This is an \$1800 request**

to fund trail improvements and repairs for a recently acquired 24 acre parcel abutting the River. There are some trails on the property but the grant is needed to address erosion issues and extend the trail. Motion to approve by Roy Najecki, seconded by Kevin Nelson. Steve Church mentioned they award letter make it clear that they are responsible for any required permits. Larry Mouradjian suggested they consult with DEM, Fish & Wildlife regarding issues with beavers. Approved.

- RIFCO. Liberty Tract. This \$3000 request was for trail head improvements (gate) and education materials (kiosk, brochures) for a forest demonstration area they manage in West Greenwich. Kevin Nelson made a motion to deny the request since although people can walk in the area it is not a recreational trail. Larry Mouradjian seconded the motion. Grant request denied.

- North Smithfield Conservation Commission. DR. Monica's Garden. The \$3000.00 grant request was for trail head development. The detailed budget showed most of the cost of the project was for a granite monument at the entry way to the property. Kevin Nelson made a motion to deny the request since it is not a recreational trail project. Seconded by Barbara Kilcup. Grant request denied.

- Town of South Kingstown. Old Mountain Field. Request for \$2910.00 to replace a bridge damaged by this springs floods. Kevin Nelson made a motion to approve the grant but exclude the design fee (\$800)

since a design had to have been available to prepare the materials list for the grant. Seconded by Sylvia Hayden. Grant for \$2110.00 approved.

- Appalachian Mountain Club. Ben Utter Trail in Arcadia Management Area. Grant request for \$1600.00 to replace a washed out bridge. Denise Poyer made a motion to approve the grant, Barbara Kilcup seconded the request. Grant approved. Jay Aron recommended that the grant award letter make them aware that the new pressurized lumber corrodes galvanized hardware so they should consider substituting another type of hardware. Approved.

4. Equipment Grant Policy. Deferred until the next meeting.

5. Public Access Policy. Deferred until the next meeting.

Next meeting June 15, 2010 at 2:30

Motion to Adjourn by Kevin Nelson. Seconded by Sue Barker. Approved.

Meeting adjourned 5:35.